[Mr. K. Kunju Panickar.]

(*b*) whether banana is an alternative food in the absence of rice ; and

(*c*) whether by the export of banana flour, the price of banana has increased enormously ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It is a valuable supplementary food material but not an alternative for rice.

(*c*) The price has increased.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : May I know whether tapioca may be used as a substitute for rice ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : May be used as a supplement.

Paddy Seeds.

66. ***MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken to introduce into Travancore selected and new varieties of paddy seeds with a view to improving the cultivation ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : A *statement of the measures taken and the results thereof is placed on the table.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : There are three varieties of seeds which have been proving successful and satisfactory and good results were obtained. May I know in which parts of Travancore cultivators use these varieties ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : They are used largely in South Travancore.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Has there been any advice given to people in the South or North Travancore or Central Travancore about the use of these seeds ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes, Sir.

Import of Sugar.

67. ***MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Mavelikara cum Kunnattur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state the total quantity of sugar arranged to be imported into this country ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : A quota of 4,000 tons has been allotted to this State for a period of 12 months, excluding the quantity expected to be produced by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., which is estimated at 3,000 tons per annum. Negotiations are being carried on to increase the quota on the basis of the State's actual requirements.

Text Books.

68. ***MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the names of the text books accepted by them for teaching in English and Vernacular Schools from Edavom 1115, 1116 and 1117 with the names of the authors and the press publishing them ;

* *Vide* appendix 1.

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